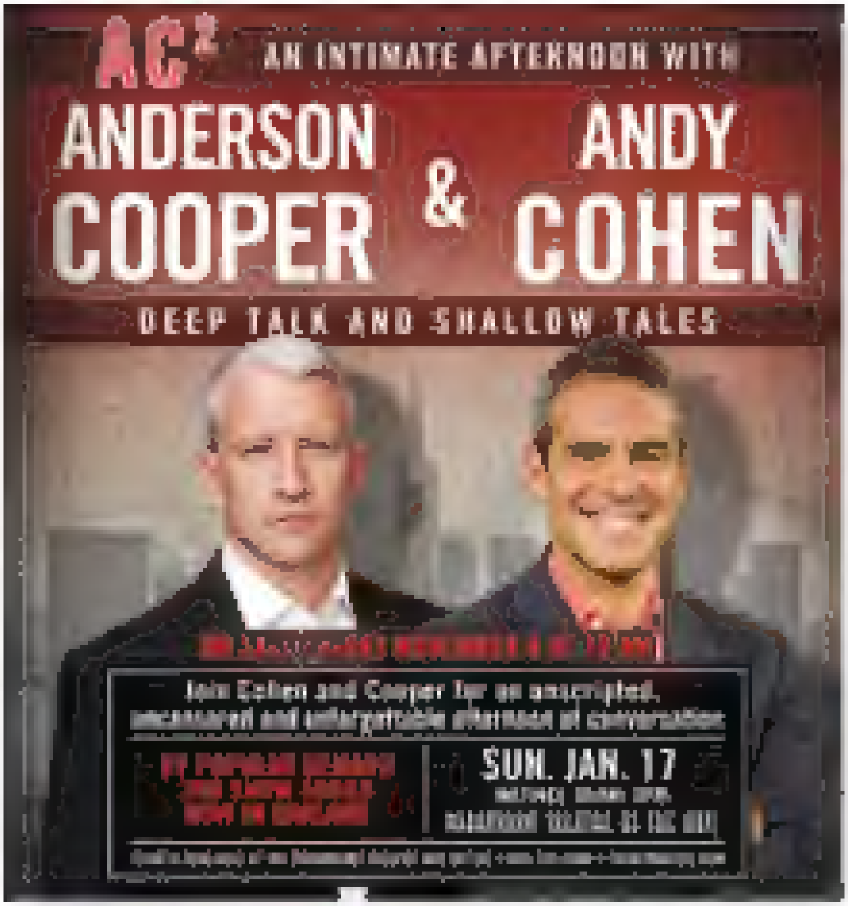


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Hint: It's not Uber, Lyft, or Airbnb — and it's
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CONTENTS

NEWS&OPINION

- Letters
- News
- News
- News
- Feature

ARTS&CULTURE

- Culture Spy
- Events
- Art
- Theater & Dance
- Books

FOOD&DRINK

- Dining Review
- What the Fork
- Restaurants
- Dining Guide

MOVIES

- Movie Reviews
- Movie Listings

MUSIC

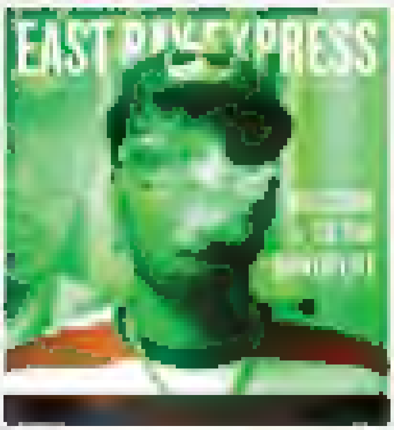
- Concerts & Clubs
- Savage Love



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LETTERS

You Forgot Something

Agreed

We Need Market-Rate

Lift the Cap!

Oakland Needs a Housing Impact Fee

Correction





A Bumper Year for Pot

Despite the fourth year of drought, farmers and industry sources say 2015 produced a crop of high-quality bud.

By David Downs

Special Deal Would Benefit Influential Developer

The Oakland planning department quietly proposed zoning changes that would greatly benefit a politically connected developer in the heart of First Friday.

By Darwin BondGraham



The proposed zoning changes would make it easier for Signature Development to build a large mixed-use project across the street from the mixed-use Hive development in Uptown.

Jobs and Housing Coalition. The Oakland Jobs PAC pays the MacDonald Group, a private company owned and operated by McDonald, for political consulting services. The Jobs and Housing Coalition also pays the MacDonald Group $150,000 a year as an independent contractor to handle "administrative and government affairs" work, according to the group's tax returns.

In addition, public records show that in August, Signature Development and Jordan Real Estate Investments, which partnered with Signature to finance the Hive, bought the EZ Transmission building at 2390 24th Street for $2.7 million. The property lies just across 24th Street from the Hive's Moxxe apartments. In an interview, Ghielmetti confirmed that his company bought the property. He also told the planning commission two weeks ago that he has options on other real estate in the area.

Gunner Brown, who lives and works in a two-story warehouse located at 447 25th Street, right behind the parcel recently bought by Signature, said she only recently found out about Signature's plans to buy out half her block when a neighbor handed her a letter they received in July from a company called Bella Vista Land Advisors. According to the letter, a copy of which Gunner Brown provided me to review, Bella Vista Land Advisors is helping Signature acquire property, and has already secured agreements with four property owners to sell potentially seven parcels comprising the entire eastern half of the block between 24th Street and 25th Street. These include the Mitsubishi dealership on Broadway, and a large warehouse and parking lot in the middle of the block owned by Don Piquet which for years has served as a machine shop. The letter states "[Signature] would like to add your property to the project, if you are willing to sell."

Signature Development built the Hive in 2015 on the block between 23rd and 24th streets along Broadway. Ghielmetti leased space in the Hive to a diverse group of tenants, including the hipster bistro and Oeal Gallery, and many have praised his company for investing in the area. Signature also built 104 luxury apartments in the recently completed Moxxe at the Hive. Rents for a one-bedroom start at $2,835 — prices that many current residents in the neighborhood said they could not afford. There are no affordable units at the Moxxe.

Commercial rents in the area are also rising rapidly. Kurihara said the 25th Street Collective will have to move out of its space at 477 25th Street in August 2016 when its lease is up. The landlord recently increased rent by 35 percent. The 25th Street Collective houses textile artists and helps them incubate small businesses.

"What's happening wholesale in the city is we're losing our manufacturing," said Kurihara. "And it could hurt us all because it's a viable sector right now to bring communities out of poverty wages." Kurihara said she hopes Ghielmetti will work with the existing community of artisans in Uptown to possibly develop affordable housing and commercial spaces alongside what is expected to be more market-rate housing and restaurants like what already exist in the Hive.

A similar proposal to rezone two parcels on Alice and Harrison streets, just behind a row of buildings along 14th Street went unchallenged at the planning commission two weeks ago, but the commission did not vote on the item. It's unclear what the advantages would be for a developer to have the new zoning, but several businesses that rent storefront space on 14th Street, right next to the parcels that would be rezoned, said that a developer recently contacted them and told them that nearby property would soon be turned into lofts.

"Right now we don't feel like our city is working on our behalf to build a place for us in the future," said Gunner Brown. "My take away is: I need to keep talking with my neighbors and to get more involved in how policy is crafted in the City of Oakland and how we can have a voice in that."


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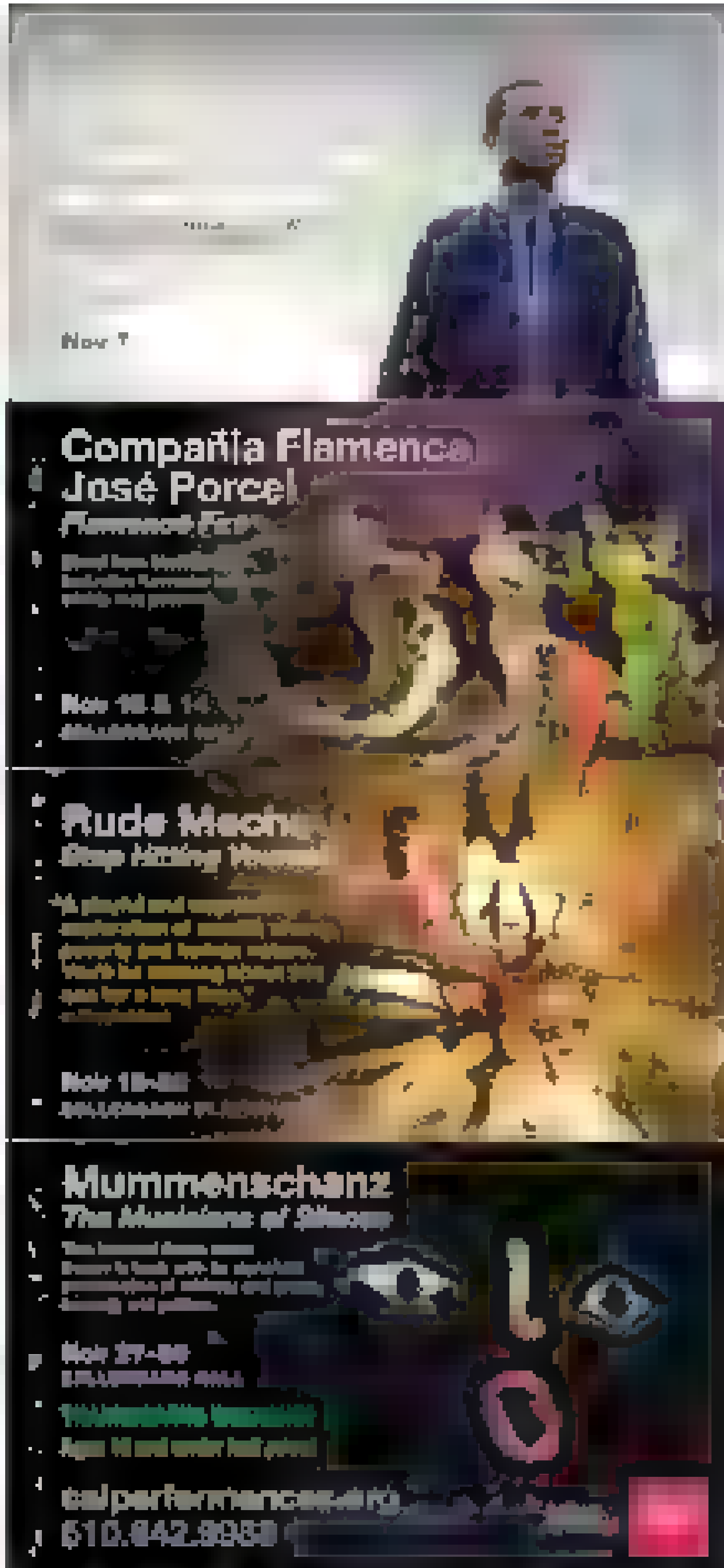

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Oakland Takes Stand Against Sex Workers

In the name of stopping child trafficking, Oakland has embraced an initiative that further criminalizes adult prostitution — even though San Francisco rejected the same program over fears it would endanger sex workers.

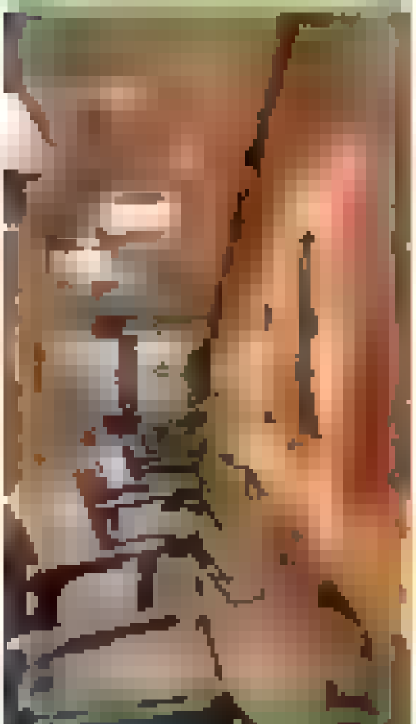
By Sam Levin








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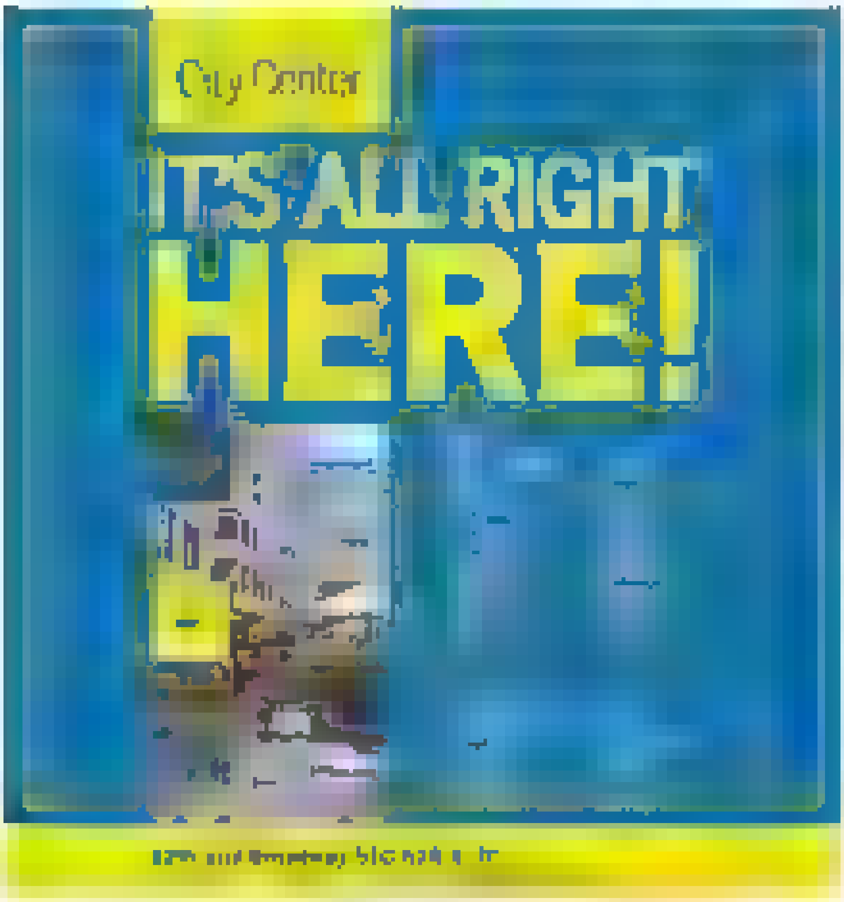


The Golden Ones

The Warriors are not just the best team in basketball, but also one of the most popular. And they've achieved their outstanding success in an aging facility, in a supposedly 'small market.'

By Mark C. Anderson





City Center
IT'S ALL RIGHT HERE!



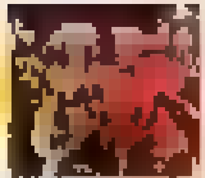

Downtown Oakland

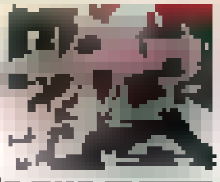
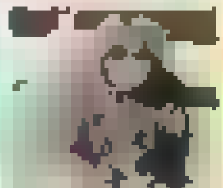
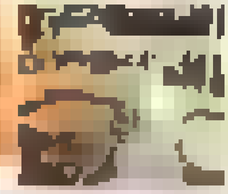
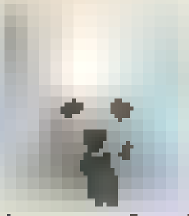

rockridge home
home
kitchen
gift


FALL IN
LOVE

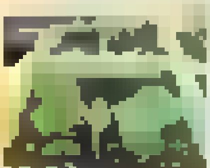


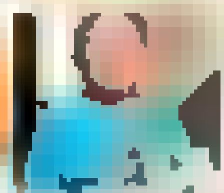


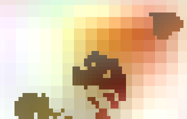






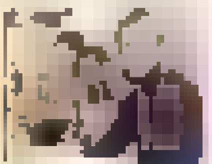


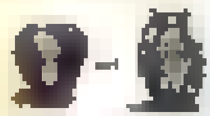








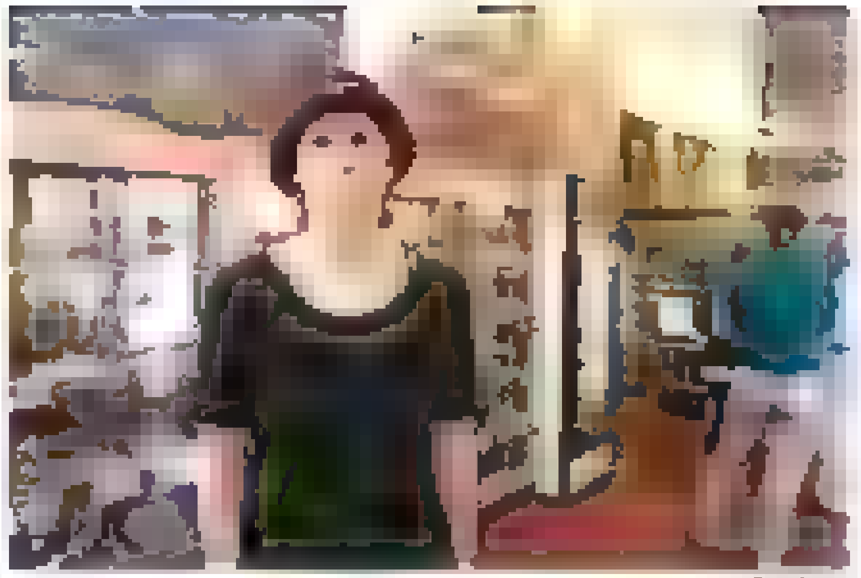


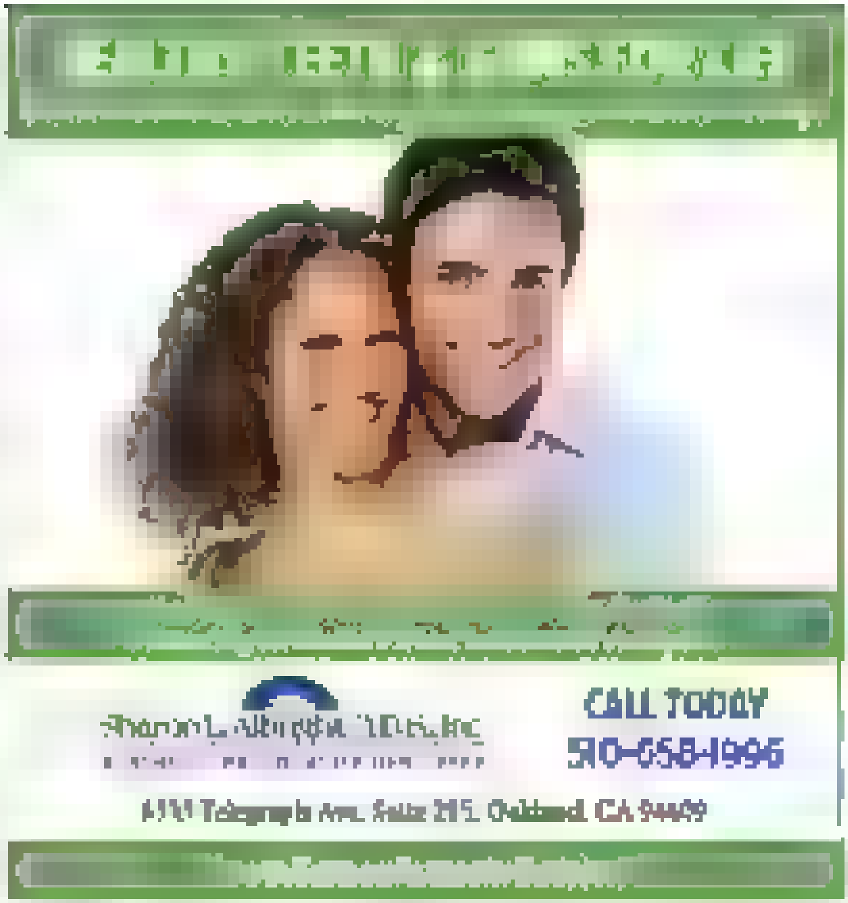


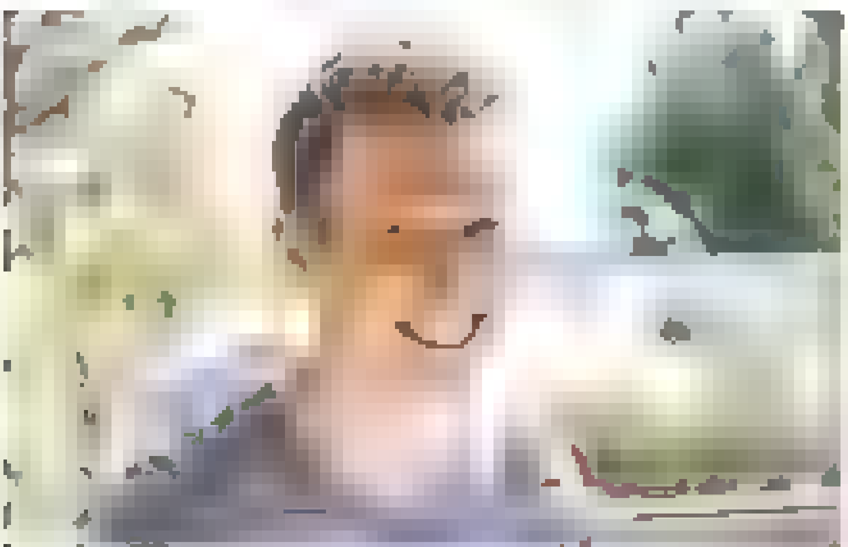




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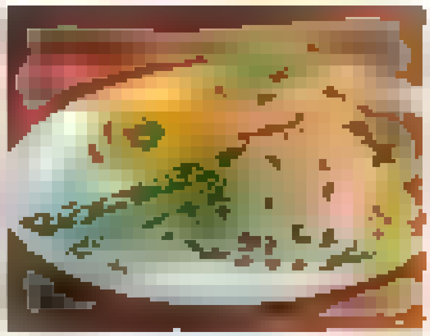

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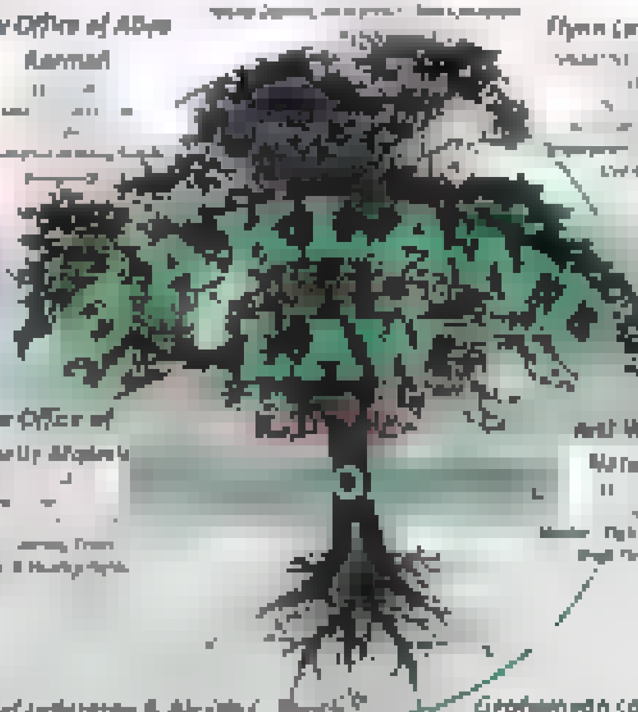



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An Identity Crisis at Mills

By Sarah Burke




CELEBRATION OF
CRAFTSWOMEN



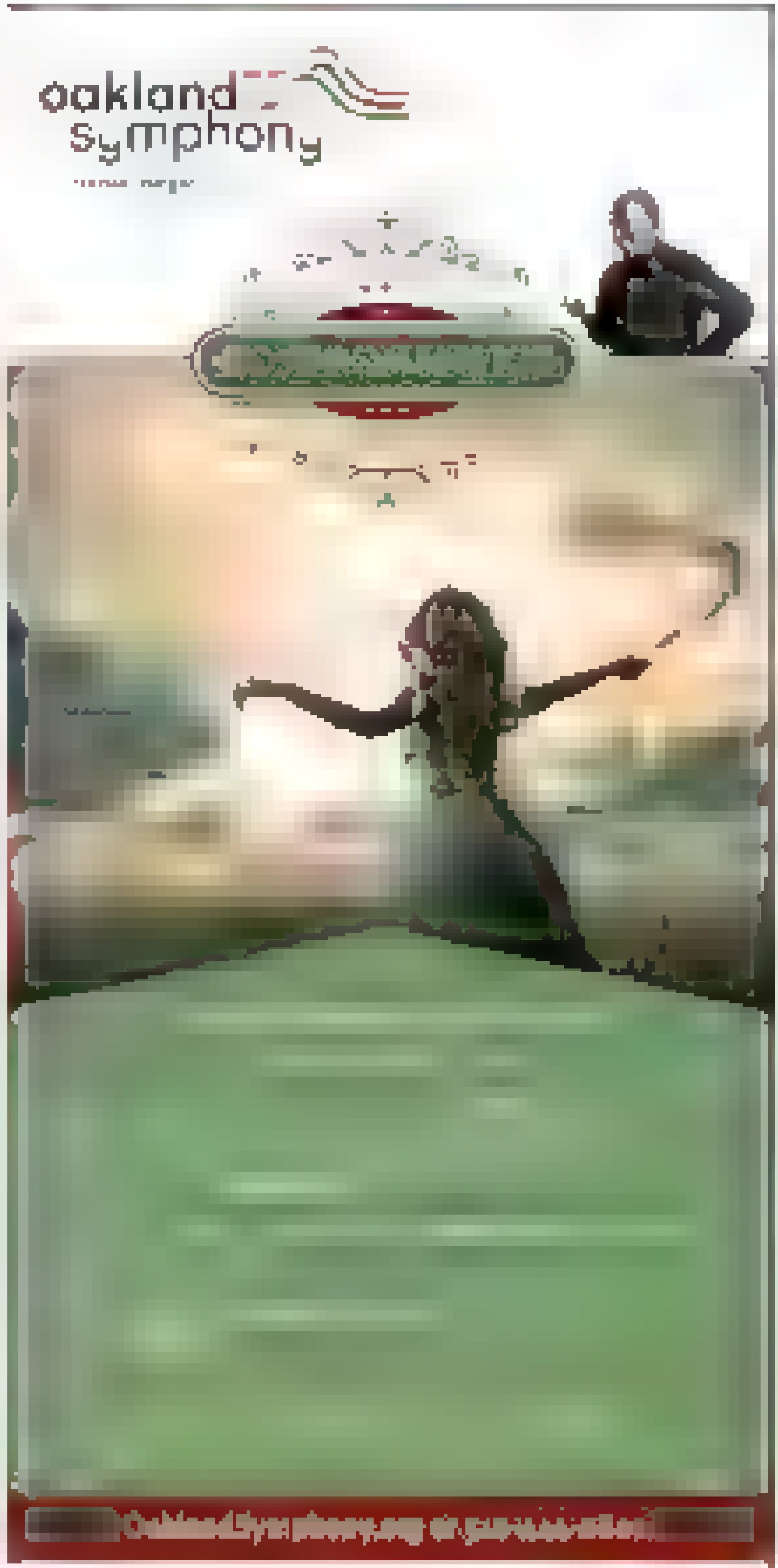

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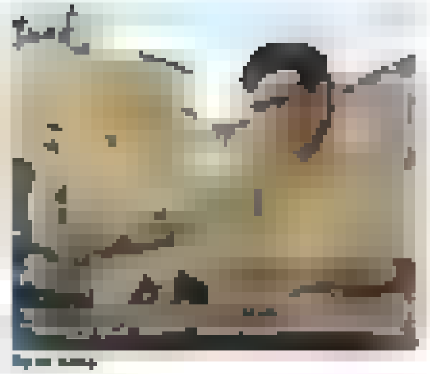

oakland symphony



The Physicality of Sound

Sound artist Tarek Atoui probes beyond a musical understanding of sound by developing instruments for the deaf

By Sarah Burke





First Friday

ART OPENINGS & EVENTS

See the Art Gallery listings in the Express for more information on East Bay art showings.

Spend an evening supporting local arts!

[illegible]

ALAMEDA

Frank Bette Center

Rhythmix? Studio & Galleries

ALBANY

Gathering Tribes

BERKELEY

Berkeley Potters Guild

Berkeley Screenprint Co.

Firehouse Gallery Village Art Studios

Kala Gallery

Urbanry

OAKLAND

The 310 Jefferson Gallery

57th Street Gallery

Anna Edwards Gallery

Actual Café

Art is Everywhere

Awaken Café

Bellevue Club

Black Zoo

Café Van Kleef

The Compound Gallery

Green Wire Jewelry Boutique and Art Gallery

Fortune Gallery

Gamma Space

4 Foot Design Studio

The Layover

Loakal

Loft Gallery

MiR

Oakland First Fridays Street Festival

Oaklandish

The Legendaire Salon

Rizzi Gallery

Royal NoneSuch Gallery

Shadowbox Gallery

Somar Bar and Lounge

Spice Monkey Café and Restaurant

Studio One Art Center

Tech Liminal

Telegraph Beer Garden

Temescal Art Center

The W.E.B. Women's Art & Design Studio

White Box Gallery at Oakland School of the Arts

OAKLAND ART MURMUR

Aggregate Space Gallery

American Steel Studios

Athen B Gallery

Beast One

Chandra Cerrito Contemporary

Classic Cars West

Creative Framing and Gallery

Creative Growth Art Center

Era Art Bar

Farley's East

Field Day And Friends

FM

Free Oakland UP

GearBox Gallery

The Great Wall of Oakland

Interface Gallery

Johansson Projects

Joyce Gordon Gallery

Krowswork

Mercury Gallery

Maple Street Design

Marion and Rose's Workshop

Mercury 20

The New Parkway Theater

Nakapendu / The Muse

Oakstop

Oro Gallery

PRO ARTS

Prohibition

Rock Paper Scissors Collective

Roscoe Gamma Gallery

Mastrianni Studios

Salon/yoga

Space Sample

SLATE contemporary

Studio 11

Transmission Gallery

Uptown Art Park

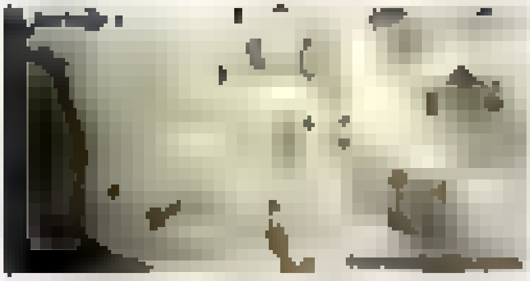
Vessel Gallery

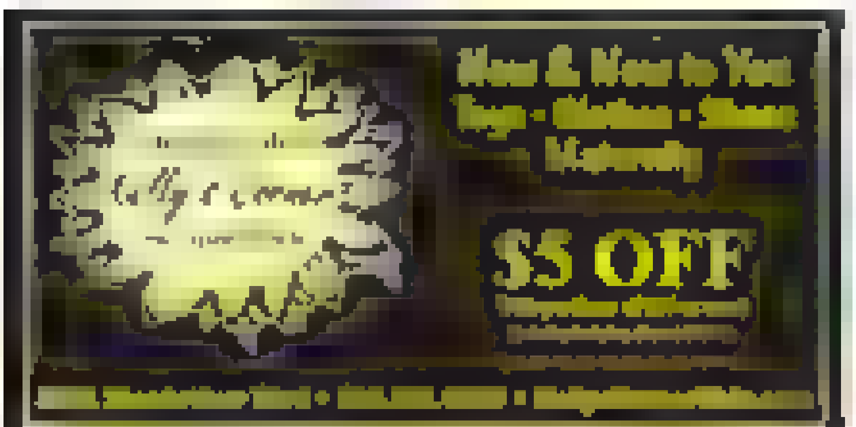
The Well Gallery

Warehouse 416

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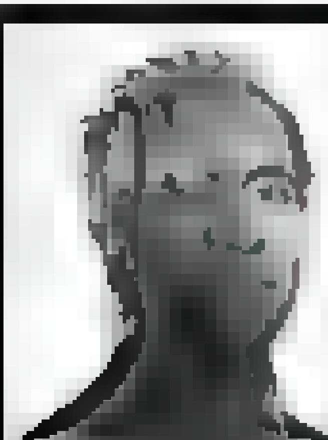

Oakland Acupuncture Project
Affordable Acupuncture



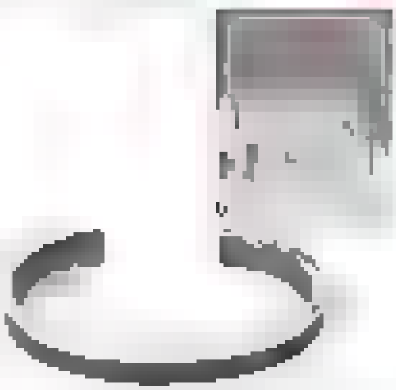
Intimate War Stories from The Frontline

Black Swan Arts honors Veterans Day with an ambitious performance that melds first-person narratives of military vets and refugees with music, dance, and food from across the globe.

By Sam Levin











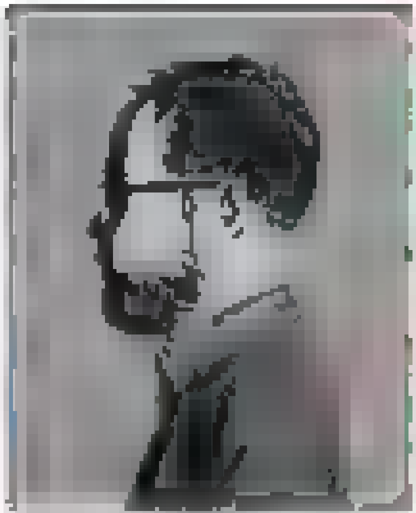
Artists in Response to State Violence and Gentrification



'Killing and Dying' in California

Acclaimed graphic novelist Adrian Tomine's newest collection of short stories presents new feelings in a familiar place

By Sarah Burke



Event Details





Brand the Beloved Country



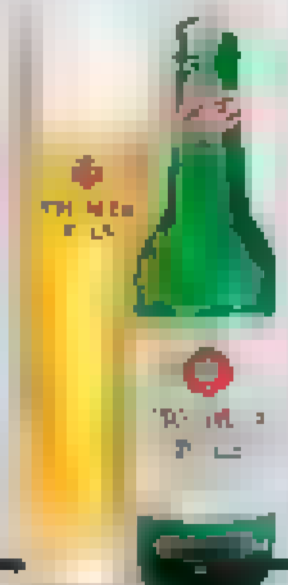


Po'boys and Oakland Pride

The New Orleans-style soul food at Big Momma's Kitchen is the real deal.

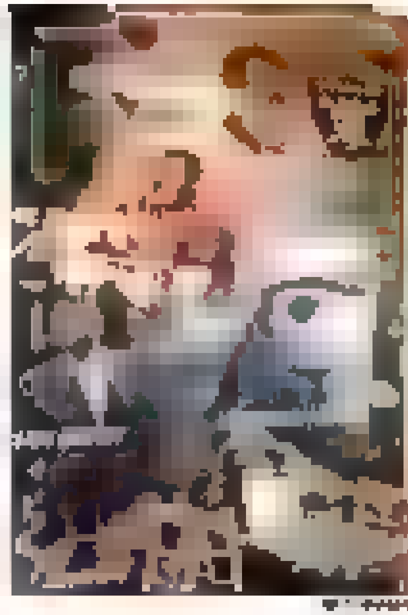
By Luke Tsai

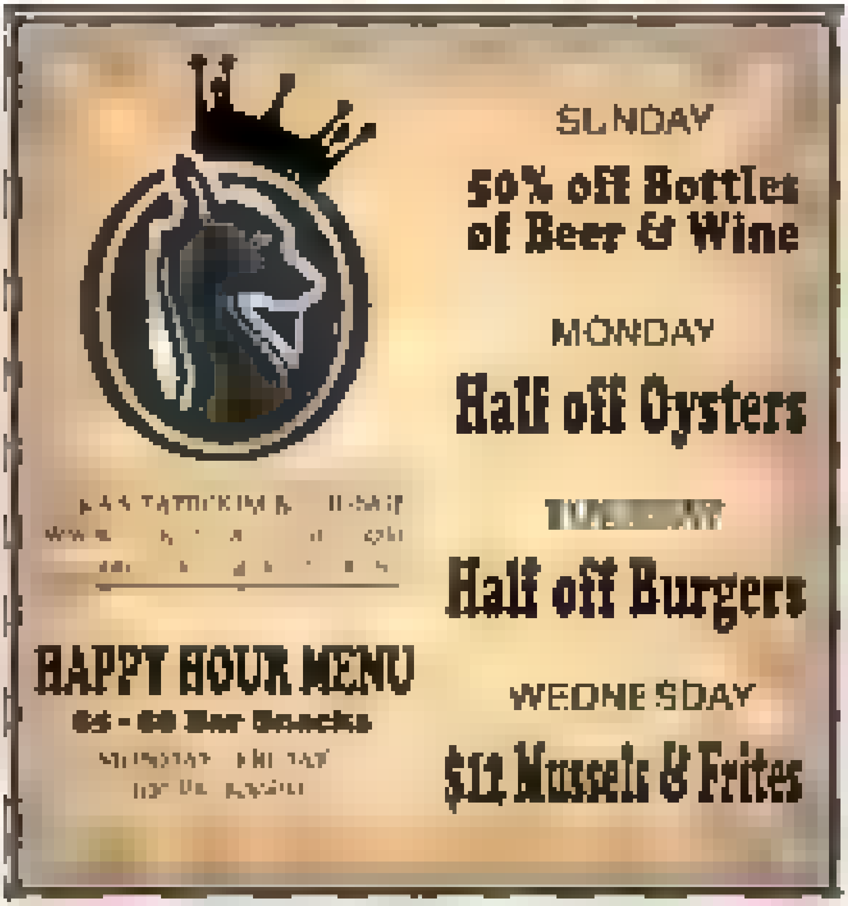


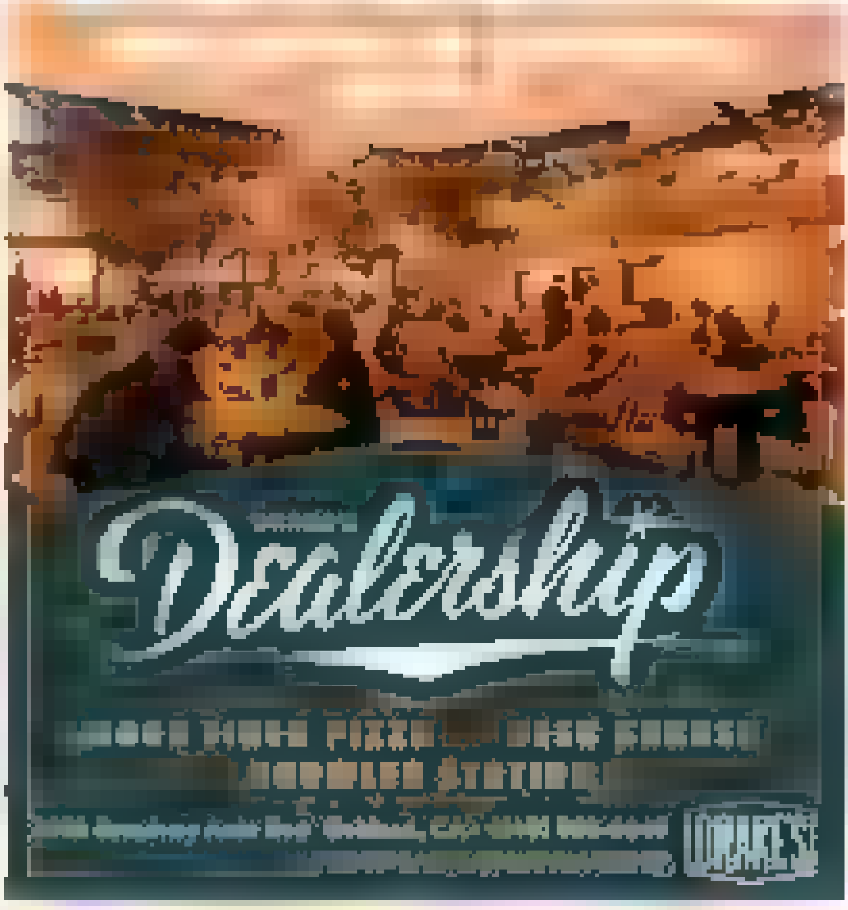



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A Decolonial Cookbook

A Mexican-American cookbook urges readers to find good health by reclaiming the traditional foods of their ancestors.

By Luke Tsai









Soul Food Restaurants in Oakland

Aunt Mary's Cafe

Blackberry Bistro

Brown Sugar Kitchen

Gemmy's BBQ

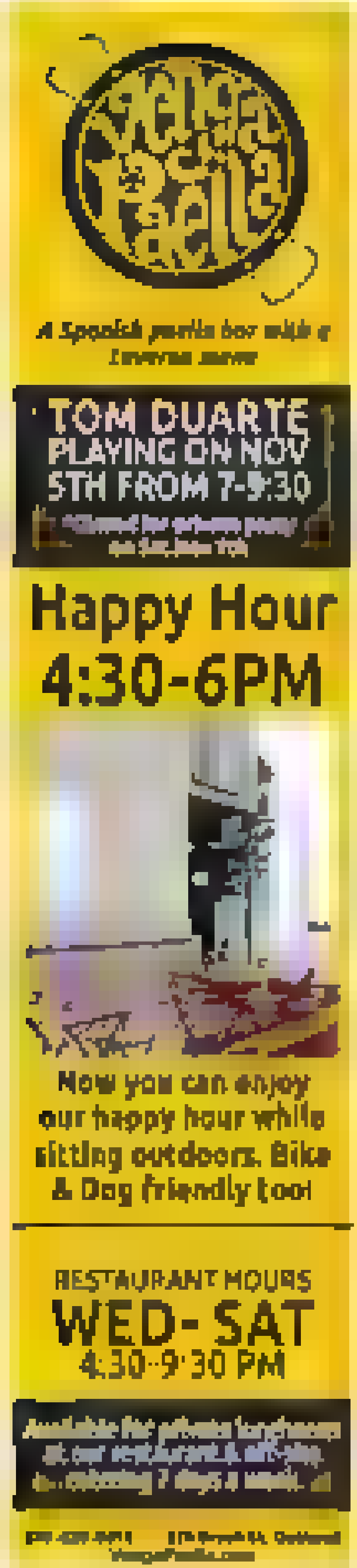
The Grease Box

Home of Chicken and Waffles

Hutch Bar and Kitchen

Lena's Soul Food Cafe

Miss Ollie's

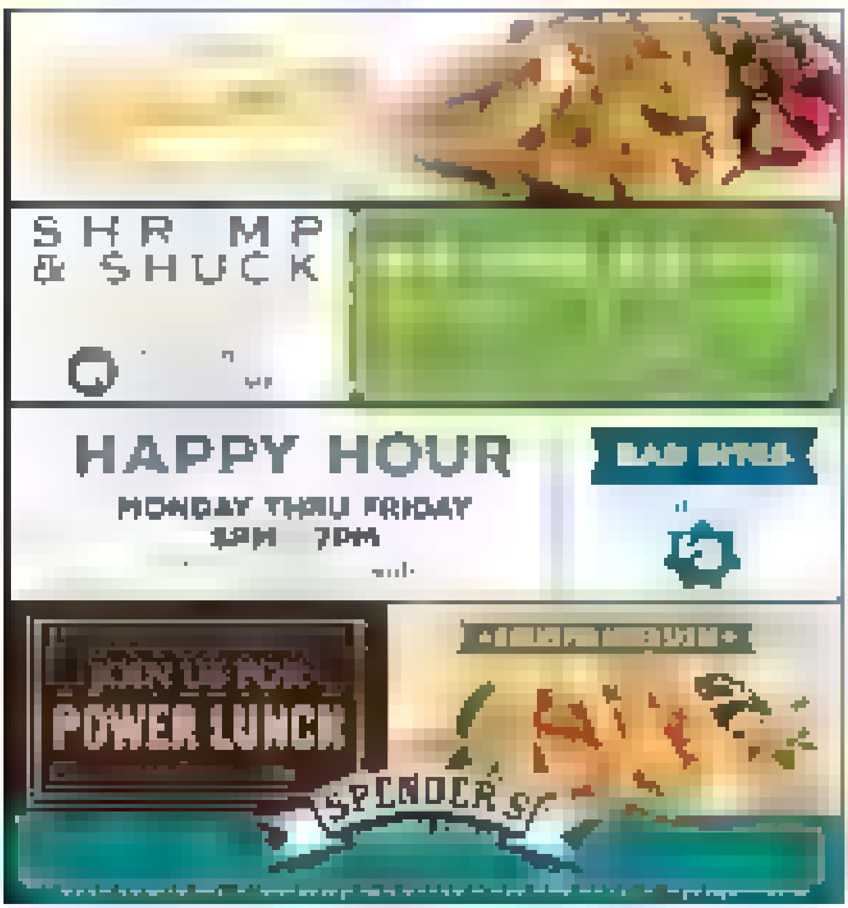

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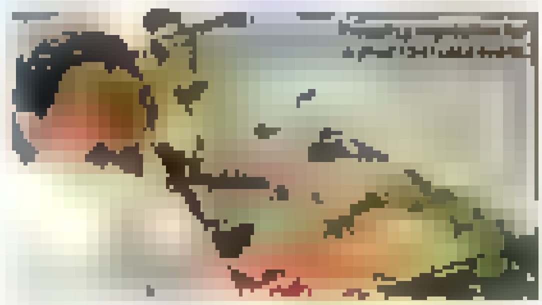



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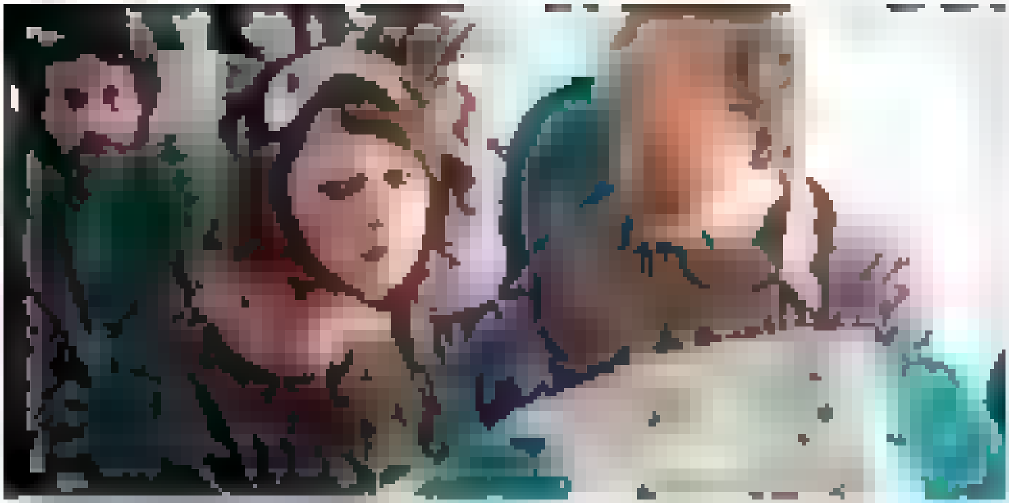

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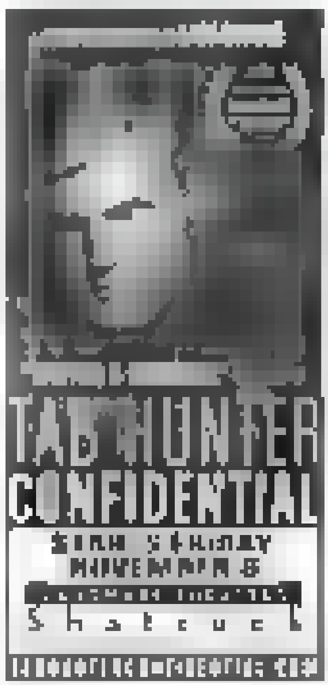


Fantasies for Sale








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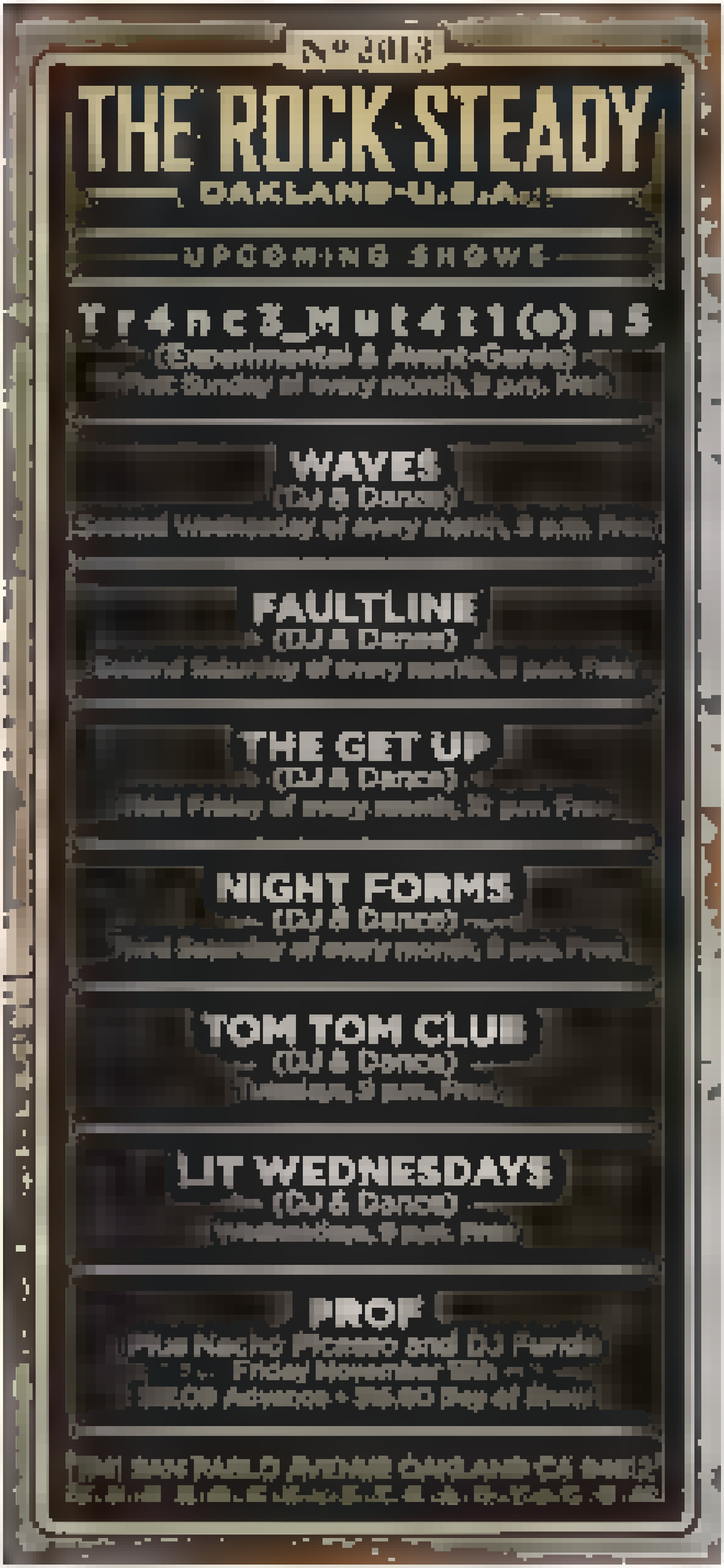

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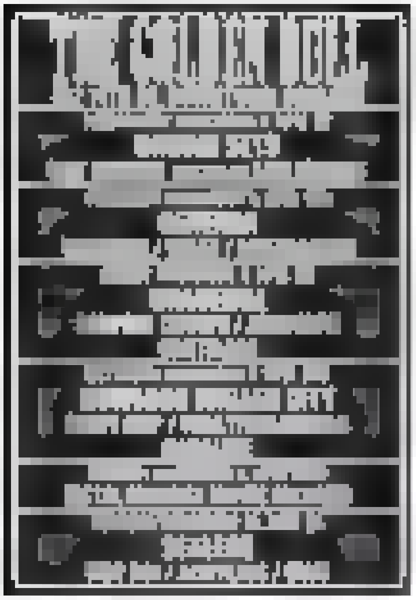




Leaving the Garage

Oakland quartet Meat Market evolves its sound from washed out garage rock to inclusive, hooky pop on its forthcoming record, Dig Deep.

Show Details







THURSDAY 5

Blues, Folk, & Country

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Blues, Folk, & Country

Classical & Opera

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

FRIDAY 6

Blues, Folk, & Country

Classical & Opera

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Blues, Folk, & Country



Classical & Opera

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip Hop

SATURDAY 7

All Ages

Blues, Folk, & Country

Classical & Opera

Experimental & Avant Garde

Gospel & Vocal

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip Hop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton



Femme Deadly Venom

Afrikatown's Anti-Gentrification Block Party

Blues, Folk, & Country

Classical & Opera

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

SUNDAY 8

Blues, Folk, & Country

Classical & Opera

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Blues, Folk, & Country

Classical & Opera

Gospel & Vocal

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip Hop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

MONDAY 9

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Blues, Folk, & Country

Classical & Opera

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

TUESDAY 10

Blues, Folk, & Country

Classical & Opera

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip Hop

Blues, Folk, & Country

Classical & Opera

Experimental & Avant Garde

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip Hop

WEDNESDAY 11

Blues, Folk, & Country

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Blues, Folk, & Country

Classical & Opera

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip Hop

THURSDAY 5

FRIDAY 6

SATURDAY 7

SUNDAY 8

MONDAY 9

TUESDAY 10

WEDNESDAY 11

Groove Sessions After Party

Sexless Marriages: The Last Word

Readers offer input on what it's like to be the "other" partner.

By Dan Savage

DEAR READERS: Two weeks ago, I announced I would be taking a nice, long break from questions about sexless marriages. [illegible]

[illegible]

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